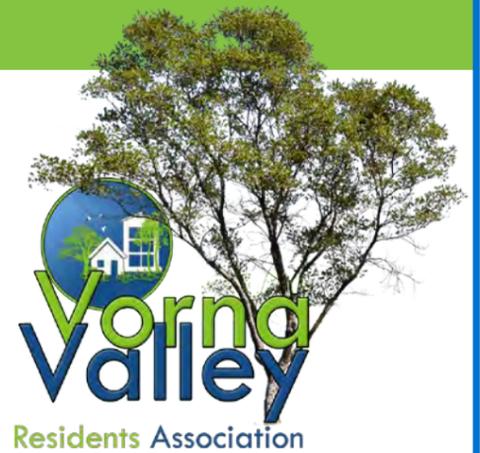


Working for you

Vorna Valley Residents Association

# Newsletter



March 2019

## VVRA Committee

- Marianne Nel - Chairperson
- Carol Thornton - Secretary, S@S
- Hein de Kock - Treasurer, Infrastructure
- Paul Mann - Social
- Carol Barnes - Greens

Facebook Twitter Email Website

Whatsapp your details and email address to 082-460-8662 to join the VVRA council issues

**Contact details for Sector 2:**  
**Sector Commander - Sergeant Benji 082 888 7731 (Office Hours)**  
**Sector 2 Vehicle 071 675 6110 (24/7)**  
**Areas:** Vorna Valley, Waterfall Park,



### Dear Vorna Valley Residents

And so we come to the end of our Summer and Autumn is busy settling in. Many road sides and open fields are covered with Cosmos, announcing the turn of the season.

With this comes the end of our rainy season with the Vaal dam level falling below 70% and we ask resident to therefore stick to water restrictions. We still have level 1 water restriction. Watering of gardens is only allowed between 16:00 - 08:00 from 1 April to 31 August.

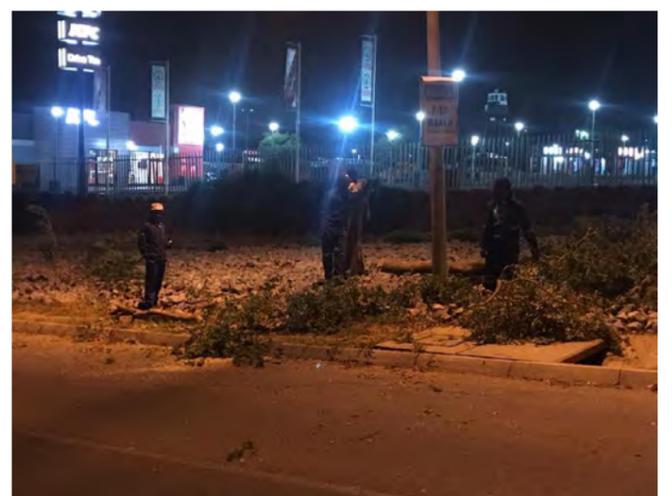
All consumers are prohibited from using a hose-pipe to clean paved areas, wash cars, roofs and driveways with municipal water.

Load shedding continued with many issues in restoring power in Vorna Valley. Many residents were left without power for several hours after load shedding ended

Our Vlei is being cut but due to rain, City Parks stopped cutting. Hopefully they will continue soon.

We would once again like to thank a few residents in Vorna Valley, for taking the initiative to help get council issues resolved.

Sadly a vehicle caught alight on Harry Galaun but luckily all occupants were unharmed and the last trees on the shopping centres pavement where chopped down, apparently with JRA's permission.



**VICTIM EMPOWERMENT**  
**076 445 2451**

The Victim Empowerment Centre comprises of volunteer counsellors who assist victims with debriefing and trauma counselling. If you need counselling after a traumatic violent crime, please contact the VEC on 076 445 2451 to set up an appointment. All counselling is confidential and no charge!

**WHYZDOG**  
**DOG BEHAVIOURAL**  
**COUNSELLING & TRAINING**

Operating mainly on referrals from Vorna Valley Animal Hospital since 2000. Protection training strictly subject to good off-leash obedience and solid temperament control

**Call or e-mail for info**  
**peter-john@whyzdog.com**  
**011 787 5346/082 306 4038**

**HEAVEN'S KITCHEN**  
 FOOD SO GOOD... IT'S TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL

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**082 911**  
 24HR EMERGENCY MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

**Harcourts**

**Wendy Redl**  
 Property Specialist  
 T 011 206 5900 C 082 451 8365  
 E wendy.redl@harcourts.co.za  
 harcourtsmidrand.co.za

**Harcourts Midrand**  
 TFT House Challenger Avenue, International Business Gateway, New Road, Midrand, 1685

## Crime in Vorna Valley

Vorna Valley had several house break in's yet again. Thanks to our ops team and security companies, who are quick to arrive at the break in's. We would also like to thank the VEC who also get involved and council such victims.

A few break in's in complexes also occurred

We are still on track with the camera project and a big thank you to those of you who emailed us to sponsor monies towards this project. You will be receiving your invoices as soon as the project is finalised.

We need more residents and complexes to join in with this sponsorship as it is for the safety and security of each and every one of our residents, so please, if you can help sponsor towards the cameras, please email [info@vvra.co.za](mailto:info@vvra.co.za) with how much you want to sponsor and invoices with banking details will be sent as soon as the project is finalised.

## Shot hole borer

### HELP STOP THE SPREAD

Infested and dead trees are a breeding ground for shot hole borer (PSHB). Recent tests indicate that ONE heavily infested tree contains over 100,000 beetles. Dead trees need to be removed and disposed of responsibly.

How to dispose of infested plant material:  
Cut infested branches into small pieces.  
Put into refuse bags and seal.  
Keep in direct sunlight, the heat from the sun will kill the insect and its larvae.

Or

Burn on site.  
(Large quantities of infested wood may not be burnt in an urban area)

Or

Consult a tree specialist.

Or

Chip and compost.

Further Reading:

The Conversation

A tiny beetle and its deadly fungus is threatening South Africa's trees

by Wilhelm de Beer

FABI Research Feature

The Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer

Australasian Plant Pathology

The polyphagous shot hole borer (PSHB) and its fungal symbiont *Fusarium euwallaceae*:

A new invasion in South Africa

by T.Paap et al

From: <http://www.jufa.org.za/pshb.html>

## Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer (*Euwallacea* sp.) and *Fusarium dieback* (*Fusarium euwallaceae*)

The Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer (PSHB) is an ambrosia beetle native to Southeast Asia. In 2017 this pest was detected on London Plane trees in the KwaZulu-Natal National Botanical Gardens, Pietermaritzburg. It has been confirmed in Durban, Hartswater, Bloemfontein, George, Knysna and Johannesburg. The beetle has a symbiotic relationship with the fungus *Fusarium euwallaceae* which serves as a food source for the adults and their larvae. In susceptible trees the fungus causes *Fusarium dieback* which can lead to branch dieback and tree death. The beetles can attack a wide range of exotic and indigenous trees in urban, agricultural and natural landscapes.



The adult female is 1.8 - 2.6mm long. Males are smaller and flightless.



Chinese maple killed by PSHB and its fungus

PSHB is not able to complete its life cycle on all of the tree species it attacks, those that the beetle is able to breed on are referred to as 'reproductive hosts'. Important reproductive hosts include species of oaks, maples, willows and coral trees, avocado and castor bean. The full list of confirmed hosts in South Africa can be viewed at [www.fabinet.up.ac.za/index.php/research/7](http://www.fabinet.up.ac.za/index.php/research/7)

The movement of infested wood is an important pathway for spread of the beetle and appropriate disposal of infested trees (by chipping/composting, solarisation or burning) will be key to reducing the spread of this damaging pest.

Surveys to monitor the spread of the beetle and fungus in South Africa are continuing. The public can assist by looking out for symptoms. Suspected instances can be reported on iNaturalist.



Reproductive galleries in pecan



PSHB galleries in coral tree



Shot gun-like symptoms on London Plane

**FABI**

Compiled by ZW de Beer & T. Paap  
[www.fabinet.up.ac.za](http://www.fabinet.up.ac.za)

**SANBI**  
Biodiversity for Life  
South African National Biodiversity Institute

Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have.  
- Margaret Mead

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**WHAT IS YOUR HOME WORTH?**

**PLATINUM**  
residential

2



And once again Eskom has implemented load shedding and due to battery problems on the Eskom side, we were left without power for several hours after load shedding ended. Several homes and complexes were also still without power long after Eskom fixed the battery issue.

8 March 2019 - Power outage due to issues at Eskom. From approx. 13:45 - 16:15. "Eskom lost supply to Lipini SS and Graighall SS at 13:45, Total loss of supply to Delta SS, whole of Randburg and Midrand Area"

11 March 2019 - Power went on and off several times

14 March 2019 - Power went off due to Eskom testing. 10:50 - 11:07

14 March 2019 - Loadshedding 12:00 - 14:30 and only came back on at 17:22 and then immediately went off again due to DB battery being too flat to switch on. Power finally came back on at approx. 18:13

16 March 2019 - Loadshedding 12:00 - 14:30. Power back approx. 17:06 only in parts of Vorna Valley. City Power having an over load problem when trying to restore power. Power restored 19:54

17 March 2019 - Loadshedding Stage 4 due to cyclone in Mozambique whereby Cahora Bassa collapsed 00:00 - 04:30. Power only restored 05:20 and 16:00 - 20:30. Parts of Vorna Valley only restored 21:25.

19 March 2019 - Power outage for maintenance in Vlei View canceled due to loadshedding.

19 March 2019 - Loadshedding Stage 2 00:00 - 04:40 only restored 05:12. 16:00 - 20:30

20 March 2019 - Loadshedding Stage 4 09: - 12:30 Power only restored approx. 14:05

21 March 2019 - Loadshedding 16:00 - 20:30. Problem at substation and power only restored at approx. 23:13

22 March 2019 - Loadshedding 08:00 - 12:30. Parts of Vorna Valley had issues at New Road Substation. Power restored 12:58. Breaker in box cnr Visser/Frans Order tripped. These residents' power came back 13:17

31 March 2019 - Power outage

44 Power boxes reported open or broken on 16 March 2019



**Watering of gardens is only allowed between 16:00 and 08:00 in winter months (1 April to 31 August) and furthermore, all consumers are prohibited from using a hose-pipe to clean paved areas, wash cars, roofs and driveways with municipal water.**

1 March 2019 -

6 March 2019 - Burst water pipe Elizabeth Fry/Berger

8 March 2019 - Pipe burst Sparrow

9 March 2019 - Low water pressure in the Birds streets

9 March 2019 - Major sewerage leak Berger/Langeveld

10 March 2019 - Bad smell around Jamie Uys. Drains were checked but bad smell remains

22 March 2019 - Overflowing sewerage Gregory

24 March 2019 - No water Langeveld and Smuts areas

28 March 2019 - Burst water meter Kyalami Boulevard

30 March 2019 - Major sewerage leak Smuts



A few potholes were repaired but the major potholes on Albertyn between Harry Galaun and Martin Kock remain and getting larger.

Major damage to road on Rudi Neitz still waiting to be repaired

Damage to roads due to water leaks still waiting to be closed and repairs. le Roux/Janadel, le Roux/Bekker, Anton Hartman/Harry Galaun, Berger/Elizabeth Fry.

JRA contracted City Parks to cut pavements



City Parks finally came to cut grass and reeds in the Vlei areas. Rains stopped them from continuing

**Just a reminder to all residents: It is illegal to chop down or even prune trees on pavements. JMPD and City Parks do issue fines.**

We should be protecting our trees and not chopping them down.



Taxis and motorists alike, are still disobeying road rules, cause gridlock in our already gridlocked road. Residents are quick to complain about other road users but they themselves don't adhere to the rules of the road.

Vorna Valley is inundated with Uber cars who park everywhere, waiting for someone to hire them. This is an issue as residents don't know if they are prospective criminals scouting our area or not.

**If you see anyone driving bad in Joburg, take a video or picture and send it via Whatsapp to JMPD wreckless driving hotline 081 410 6338**



Vorna Valley Specialist

**Rickus Bower**

082 520 3737

rickus@firzt.co.za

www.firzt.co.za



**Application for development**

Africa Foot Print on Pretorius Road application for 3 storey, 60 units per hectare.

As if we don't already have enough issues with old infrastructure and over development in Vorna Valley.

We need as many people as possible to object to this development, until all our infrastructure has been upgraded.

Pls copy info@vvra.co.za in with your objection so we can make sure they don't get "lost" at council.

PROVINCIAL NOTICE 274 OF 2019  
CITY OF JOHANNESBURG LAND USE SCHEME, 2018

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 26 of the City of Johannesburg Municipality Planning By- Law, 2016, that I, the undersigned, Robert Bremner Fowler of Rob Fowler & Associates (Consulting Town & Regional Planners), intend to apply on behalf of the registered owner, Gerald Rene Sylvere Haumant, to the City of Johannesburg for the establishment of a township in respect of the property identified below:

APPLICATION TYPE:  
Proposed new township establishment in terms of Section 26 of the City of Johannesburg Municipality Planning By-Law, 2016  
Proposed township name Vorna Valley Extension 108

APPLICATION PURPOSE:  
It is proposed that the township will consist of 2 erven for the following purposes, namely: "Residential 3" at a density of 60 dwelling units per hectare and for a clubhouse, canteen and recreational facilities for tenants  
Coverage 50%  
FSR 0,6 and Height 3 storeys.

SITE DESCRIPTION:  
Remainder of Portion 9 of Holding 74, Halfway House Estate Agricultural Holdings.

STREET ADDRESS: 42 Pretorius Road, Vorna Valley.  
Particulars of this application will be open for inspection from 08:00 to 15:30 at the Registration Counter, Department of Development Planning, Room 8100, 8th Floor A-Block, Metropolitan Centre, 158 Civic Boulevard, Braamfontein.

Any objections or representation with regard to the application must be submitted to both the owner/agent and the Registration Section of the Department of Development Planning at the above address, or posted to P O Box 30733, Braamfontein, 2017, or a facsimile sent to (011) 339 4000, or an e-mail sent to objectionsplanning@joburg.org.za by not later than **17 April, 2019.**

DATE OF FIRST ADVERTISEMENT : 20 March, 2019.  
ADDRESS OF OWNER: c/o Rob Fowler & Associates, (Consulting Town & Regional Planners) PO Box 1905, Halfway House, 1685 Tel. 011 238 7937/45 Fax. 086 672 4932 or email robf0208@gmail.com Ref. R2779  
Ref. R2779

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Email: becs.midrand@gmail.com

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**Swiss Country Club**  
JOHANNESBURG

We would like to let residents know that the **The Courier Restaurant** at the Swiss Country Club on Moerdyk Street is not just for members. Anyone can go there for a good meal. They support the VVRA and it would be wonderful if residents supported them.

Email: courier@hot.co.za  
Cell: 082 561 0063 (Wolfgang)



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**Tekkie Tax**  
2019

31 MAY 2019



WE KNOW, ANOTHER TAX!  
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Get your family, business, friends, school class, society or club involved, and leave a little sparkle!

Support this initiative for only R10!

There are stickers, water-removable tattoos, laces/tekkie tags, and even t-shirts!

Click the link below for more info OR contact Memory: office@animalsindistress.org.za!

FOLLOW THE LINK: <https://mailchi.mp/22866e523b06/thank-you-from-said-jafck1rtnl-595137?e=8c762465bb>

## Please Don't Forget To Recycle With Phambili Services Each Wednesday Of The Month.

### Recycling is Compulsory



### Separation@Source is coming to your area

#### What is Separation@Source?

Separation@Source means separating and placing your recyclable material into the refuse bag provided and placing non-recyclable waste into the black wheelie bin.

#### Recyclables to be placed in plastic bags are:

Paper	Cardboard	Magazines & Newspapers	Plastics	Glass	Bottles	Milk and Juice Cartons	Cans	Jars
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**TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**  
[www.pikitup.co.za](http://www.pikitup.co.za) or call 0860 JOBURG (0860 562 874)  
 or [www.phambiliservices.co.za](http://www.phambiliservices.co.za) or 0861 767 666

An initiative brought to you by

A reminder that recycling is compulsory. Phambili Services collect recycling in Vorna Valley on behalf of Pikitup, every Wednesday.

If you are not yet recycling with Phambili, please contact [marianne@vvra.co.za](mailto:marianne@vvra.co.za) via email or via whatsapp on 082 460 8662 so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

Phambili Services supply blue bags and collect weekly.

All recycling material goes into one bag. (Paper, Cardboard, Magazines & Newspapers, Plastics, Glass, Bottles, Milk and Juice Cartons, Cans, Jars.

Phambili Services now also place informal reclaimers into complexes to do the recycling on their behalf. Phambili then buys back all the recycling they collect, taking them to the depot to weigh and pay.

This will hopefully take many of the informal reclaimers off the streets and afford them a monthly income.

If you would like your complex to join this project, please email your details to [marianne@phambiliservices.co.za](mailto:marianne@phambiliservices.co.za), so that Phambili can come and setup your complex for an informal reclaimer to start your recycling.

Each house and complex gets given Phambili blue bags for recycling. We kindly request that resident please use these bags for recycling ONLY and not for other waste or garden waste.

"Trees exhale for us so that we can inhale them to stay alive. Can we ever forget that? Let us love trees with every breath we take until we perish."

- Munia Khan

HELP OUT THIS BIRD OF THE YEAR: This Secretary bird (*Sagittarius serpentarius*) was allegedly found in a snare, and then subsequently sold on the side of the road. He was rescued and taken to the Springs SPCA, after which, he was transferred to us.

An examination revealed no injuries from the snare, but he was severely underweight and dehydrated. Blood tests luckily showed no other abnormalities. He was placed on i/v fluids and after 24 hours managed to stand up and he has just improved in leaps and bounds. He is now eating well and he has been moved to an outside enclosure.

However, we would LOVE your support: much of the work we do, relies on the knowledge and information we have on the species we treat. We also pride ourselves in assisting in research wherever possible. In order to do this, we would like to place a satellite telemetry tracking device on him - this will provide vital data on the species. These devices cost R9000 - and we'd sincerely appreciate any assistance in purchasing one of these units for this BirdLife South Africa's Melissa Whitecross to monitor his progress post release.

We have a variety of donation channels available, including:  
 SnapScan: <https://pos.snapscan.io/qr/PXMP5766>

PayPal: [https://www.paypal.com/donate/...](https://www.paypal.com/donate/)

Bank transfer:  
 Johannesburg Wildlife NPC  
 FNB Cheque account  
 Account nr: 62658400264  
 Branch code: 255355  
 Swift code: FIRZAJJ  
 Reference: Secretary



All our donation details can be found here: <http://www.johannesburgwildlifevet.com/make-a-donation.html>

We treat indigenous animals free of charge, relying solely on the donations and support of our community.

#KeepingItWild #MakingADifference  
[www.johannesburgwildlifevet.com](http://www.johannesburgwildlifevet.com)  
 pics: Ashleigh Pienaar  
 Bank transfer:  
 Johannesburg Wildlife NPC  
 FNB Cheque account  
 Account nr: 62658400264  
 Branch code: 255355  
 Swift code: FIRZAJJ  
 Reference: Secretary



We treat indigenous animals free of charge, relying solely on the donations and support of our community.

#KeepingItWild #MakingADifference  
[www.johannesburgwildlifevet.com](http://www.johannesburgwildlifevet.com)  
 pics: Ashleigh Pienaar

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**Small Ad : R35/month**

**Quarter Page : R200/month.**

**Small Ad : R50/month**

**Small Ad : R85/month**